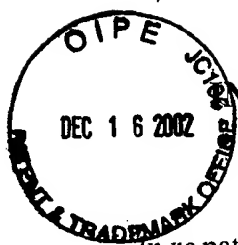


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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No: 38485-0006

In re patent application of:

Sabine BUB *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 4269

Serial No.: 09/914,397

Group Art Unit: 1636

Filed: March 1, 2002

Examiner: David A. LAMBERTSON

For: MOLECULAR-BIOLOGICAL MARKER FOR ANALYTICAL ELECTRON
MICROSCOPY.

#13B
Lita
1-2-03

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the Office Action mailed July 16, 2002 (Paper No. 9). Please debit any underpayments, or credit any overpayments, to firm deposit account no. 08-1641. Applicants request reconsideration and allowance in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Amend the claims as follows:

B¹ 3. (twice amended) The plasmid of claim 1, wherein the SK primer sequence elements comprise a marker that binds to a target structure during hybridization.

4. (twice amended) The plasmid of claim 1, wherein the SK primer sequence element is

5' - GATCCACTAGTTCTAGAGCG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 5).